

FEBRUARY, 1943

The INTERNATIONAL TEAMSTER



Official Magazine
INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD
TEAMSTERS . . . CHAUFFEURS
WAREHOUSEMEN & HELPERS
OF AMERICA

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Minneapolis Backs President

EXPRESSING the hope that other affiliates of the Teamsters' Union will assure the President of their continued loyalty and confidence in his leadership, Secretary-Treasurer Gene Larson of Joint Council No. 32 of Minneapolis forwarded the following letter to International headquarters.

Larson declared that individual Teamsters should also write the President their personal pledges of support as he labors heroically to save democracy from the twin perils of assault and sabotage.

Here is the pledge from the membership of Minneapolis:

"January 8, 1943.

"Franklin D. Roosevelt,
President of the United States of America,
Washington, D. C.

"Dear Mr. President:

"On this 8th day of January, 1943, ten thousand members of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters and their families, residing in Minneapolis, Minnesota, congratulate you on your splendid message to the 78th Congress.

"Again you have proven to the people of America that this war is being carried on in a manner which is fitting to our great nation, and you have reassured the world that victory over our oppressors and freedom for enslaved millions will be the ultimate result.

"Statements made by you such as: 'If the security of the individual citizen or family should be subject to national debate, the country knows where I stand,' gives to labor the patriotism, the courage, and the willingness to make any sacrifice that you, as commander in chief, may deem necessary, regardless of the vicious attacks made on us during this emergency.

"Mr. President, we realize that you, too, are being attacked by selfish groups, and it is our hope that this letter will give you comfort and inspiration in some small way so that you can carry on until victory is attained. We have absolute confidence in your sincerity and unlimited abilities, and may God bless you and keep you strong so that you may complete the tremendous task that lies ahead of you.

"Respectfully yours,

"TEAMSTERS' JOINT COUNCIL No. 32,

"By: GENE LARSON, *Secretary-Treasurer.*"

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INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF TEAMSTERS
CHAUFFEURS . . . WAREHOUSEMEN AND HELPERS

Vol. XL

FEBRUARY, 1943

Number 3

War Will Get Tougher

By Daniel J. Tobin

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WE ARE in war, and our belts, in the form of restrictions, will be tightening on us every month. This is necessary, and no one should complain. Conditions cannot prevail as usual.

We are having some confusion as to transfers within our union. Under the manpower laws, any class of men can be shifted from one place to another and they cannot refuse to go.

The general president of your International Union is endeavoring, through his contacts in Washington, assisted by other members of labor from both the American Federation of Labor and the Congress of Industrial Organizations, to see to it that traveling expenses are paid if individuals are shifted from one city or district to another.

We are also endeavoring to obtain the same wages for a man who goes from a district where wages are high into a district where the wages are lower. Of course the cost of living will be considered as a balancing medium.

There are other conditions that we are endeavoring to obtain for men who will be transferred from one place to another, but we do not know that we can get those conditions granted to us.

We, the men of labor, are not the lawmaking body, and a civilian, under the powers granted to the director of manpower, is almost the same as a soldier in the service insofar as obedience to orders and discipline is concerned.

We are also trying to get the single men or those who have very small families selected first for transfer. There is also the possibility that a man may be transferred from one kind of employment to another. In other words, you may be a truck driver in Philadelphia and be sent to West Virginia to work in a war munition plant.

We had better get these things into our heads and realize that there is no use in complaining; that even though we are seriously inconvenienced, our sacrifice is almost insignificant compared to the sacrifices made by the men in the regular service who are across the water, or who are separated from their families, preparing by training to get into the actual fighting and be sent across the water.

Jurisdictional Conflicts

We have another condition confronting this International Union which requires attention. In some places men are sent out from a large city to a small town, to engage in construction work as truck drivers, and immediately the local union in the small town demands a transfer card. I am not going to lay the law down now on this matter, but it is my opinion that this should stop at once.

If a member of ours goes from Minneapolis with his truck into one of the Dakotas to work for three or four months, it is my judgment that because of the war he should be allowed to remain in the Minneapolis local; and that goes for all districts in the country.

This, however, is only my personal opinion as your general president. The general executive board will take this matter up at its meeting this month, and under the powers vested in the board between conventions and because of the emergency of war, the board may make a ruling on this matter, especially now when men are liable to be shifted from one district to another.

Use Good Judgment

If, however, a man is moving permanently from one district to another and intends to stay in his new location, he is bound by the constitution to transfer. Take, for instance, a case that came to our attention recently, where in a certain large city in Illinois a contractor went down to work 200 miles from the city, in a small town where the wages were lower than the wages prevailing in the large city. On the second day down there this contractor brought his men and equipment with him. The job was expected to last four months.

Immediately the local officers in this rural district demanded transfers for those men, and started to read the laws and the constitution, etc. Cases of that kind are uncalled for. Resiliency, cool-headedness, common sense and judgment should be used. Instances of that kind are what the general executive board will endeavor to prevent in the future.

You can help your country, your government and your union by being consistent and patient, and not hard-boiled, demanding immediately transfers just because of the couple of months' dues you might get from the individual. In other words, try to get it into your head that conditions are not normal and things cannot be run "as usual."

Teamsters Win in West Virginia

— Court Dissolves Injunction

ESTABLISHING for the first time in West Virginia the right of a union to peacefully picket an unfair employer, the Supreme Court of Appeals of that state has handed down a decision which is a complete victory for Teamsters' Union No. 175 of Charleston.

The opinion was written by Judge Rose in dissolving an injunction against the Teamster local, obtained by the Blossom Dairy Company in the circuit court of Kanawha County four hours after a single picket appeared in front of each of the company's four retail stores advising the public that the company was "unfair."

The company obtained its injunction on the ground that it was not "unfair" and that the action of the Teamsters would induce violation of the contract between the company and its employees.

Withdrew from Teamsters

The employees were former members of Local No. 175 who had withdrawn en masse six months after joining the Teamsters to organize an "independent" union of their own known as the Brotherhood of Bakery Salesmen, Inc.

The company immediately signed a contract with this "union." That was in 1937. In 1941 the Teamsters attempted to reopen negotiations with the company. The effort was unsuccessful and the Teamsters posted four pickets, one on each store.

In reversing the action of the local court, Judge Rose made three pronouncements which will have a far-reaching effect on labor's rights in the

State of West Virginia, and possibly in other states of the South. He said:

"1. Picketing of the place of business of an employer by a labor union will not be enjoined on the ground that it tends, or is intended, to cause the breach of a labor contract between such employer and another labor organization, when such picketing is not otherwise unlawful.

"2. The word 'unfair,' as commonly used by organized labor, bears a special and peculiar meaning, and, when so used without qualifying words or statements, is not to be treated as connoting fraudulent, dishonest or like inequitable conduct.

"3. The carrying by pickets of a labor union of placards charging an employer with being "unfair to organized labor," although no unfairness in the ordinary meaning of that term is shown to exist, may not be inhibited by injunction, if such picketing is otherwise lawful."

One aspect of the case on which the company based its original charges was the publication in a local labor paper of charges that the Blossom employees' union was "phoney."

The Teamsters denied responsibility for the published charges and also for handbills circulated with the same allegations. The signs of the Teamster pickets stated only that the dairy was "unfair."

The court ruled that the use of this word was legitimate in labor parlance and that the company had failed to show that the Teamsters were responsible for the newspaper and handbill charges against the company.

The company claimed that these charges would cause a breach of contract with its employees but failed to introduce any such proof in court, according to Judge Rose. He said further:

"If it is a breach of this contract by the dairy company that is feared, shall a court be moved by the absurdity of a bill of complaint seeking an injunction to prevent third parties from inducing the plaintiff itself to breach the contract?

"If it is a breach by the Brotherhood of Dairy Salesmen, Inc., that is to be guarded against, we cannot forget that Sam Sloman, the president and controlling power in the dairy company, repeatedly says in his testimony that he is perfectly indifferent as to what union the company's employees belong to.

"If the plaintiff (the dairy company) has no concern about this matter, why should a court issue an injunction at its request?"

Judge Rose referred to the decision of the United States Supreme Court permitting picketing under the constitutional guarantee of free speech and free press. He said that was binding in this case.

He added, however, that no one could proclaim falsehoods in picketing and claim the protection of the free speech guarantee of the constitution.

The company claimed it was a falsehood to be described as "unfair." Judge Rose ruled otherwise. He also noted that the picketing itself was peaceable and that Local No. 175 was acting clearly within its rights.

So the sweeping injunction of the local court was set aside. According to General Organizer Thomas P. O'Brien "this is a distinct victory for the Teamster movement in West Virginia and represents one further step forward by Local No. 175 in its dispute with the Blossom Dairy Company."

Many Friends Mourn Mrs. T. J. Farrell

ON Wednesday, January 13, Mrs. Thomas J. Farrell, beloved wife of International Vice-President T. J. Farrell, passed to her eternal rest. A truly courageous, widely respected and intensely loved soul, she welcomed her end and passed to her reward in a manner aptly indicating the remarkable lady that she was.

Connoting the high esteem in which her loved ones held her, she was laid out in glorious splendor amidst a gorgeous and vast display of floral offerings. From every section of the country there were expressions of sympathy in every known type of floral design. As she lived, so she died, a

beautiful life rounded out in a truly magnificent manner.

Along with the tributes in flowers came her many near and dear friends. Most of the top-ranking officials of our International Union with their women folk were on hand, as well as others from many national and international organizations.

In all truth, her loved ones can assuage their heavy hearts with the thought that, like the sainted monk of old who smiled at death because he had said no wrong of anyone in life, so, Mrs. Farrell could meet her judge with a radiant smile, confident of her immediate entrance into glory.

Labor will oppose bitterly any efforts to carry us back to the fanatical days of prohibition.—William Green.

The Farm Bloc Burps!

By Lester M. Hunt

THE farm bloc in the new congress has cooked up a deal that sounds like a burp from a Munich beer cellar.

It wants to boost the prices of food, reduce the quantity of food and put the entire nation at its mercy in the face of the greatest food shortage in American history.

It wants to do this notwithstanding the fact that farm income is the highest in American history.

And it would make labor the goat, not only as the victim of the inflation it would bring, but as the excuse for its economic mayhem.

They Blame Labor

The excuse for the action of the farm bloc is that farm wages have increased, thereby giving the public the impression that labor is responsible for the increased cost of food.

But labor would be the greatest victim of the increase because its wages are anchored. Of course labor could obtain wage increases eventually if food prices began to soar, but bitter experience has shown that wages can never keep up with prices, once a race starts.

Any wage gains made by labor under such circumstances are lost before they are received because prices have risen again during the period of negotiation.

Consequently, labor would be in continuous negotiation for enough money to buy the food that keeps constantly rising beyond its reach.

This is the reason for the determination of the federal government to prevent inflation by stabilizing wages and prices. If prices break loose, as the farm bloc wants them to do, the

result is immediate inflation and wholesale suffering.

Instead of fighting the Germans and Japs, the farm bloc would have us fighting each other for food.

And would the farmers benefit by this?

Would Make Food Scarce

Not the average farmer who spreads his manure on his farm and not in the halls of congress. He would suffer as acutely as labor because the beneficiaries of such a program would be the big farmers, such as the Associated Farmers, who can afford to hire lobbyists and manipulate prices on the products they raise.

The little farmer would be frozen out of business, which would make food scarcer and prices higher.

That is not merely a presumption. It is a fact, based on the brazen policies of the farm lobbyists. They are urging the abolition of the farm security administration which, by loans and advice, has shown hundreds of thousands of little farmers how to double their food production, so badly needed in this crucial period of the war.

Freeze Little Farmers

If federal aid is denied the little farmers, they will be put out of business by the big farmers represented by the Associated Farmers, the Farm Bureau and the Grange. The production of food will then be so dangerously reduced that our success in the war is jeopardized.

But that doesn't worry the farm bloc. No doubt the big farmers plan to buy up the land of the little farmers deprived of federal help and there-

by get both hands around our necks.

As reported by Drew Pearson in his column from Washington, D. C., the farm lobbyists have secured help from federal land grant colleges and the National Cooperative Milk Producers and have made the flat threat to Secretary of Agriculture Wickard that unless their program is accepted, they will start a propaganda drive against rationing and will curtail the output of food.

In other words they say—"Pay us or starve."

Figures on farm income compiled by *Time Magazine* show that never before have the farmers been as financially fortunate as they are today. Income per farm dweller is up almost 275 per cent over the average from 1910 to 1914 and the cash farm income is up 110 per cent over 1939.

Farm Income Soars, Wages Lag

Weekly industrial wages have risen less than half as much as farm income, thereby demonstrating again that wages cannot keep up with prices without governmental control.

Also, the statistics of the Department of Agriculture completely refute the contention that farmers need more money because wages have risen unreasonably. The wage figures quoted are for industrial labor, not farm labor. Farm labor is far below industrial labor in wages. Yet the farm bloc says that the rise in farm wages necessitates higher food prices.

Farm income has risen 600 per cent higher than the prices the farmer pays but the farm bloc claims the food price ceilings must be blasted to permit farm income to rise still higher.

Coupled with its demand for higher prices lurks a move to freeze both farm and industrial labor at wage levels that will make it impossible for

labor to maintain anything but a substandard of living while the Associated Farmers gather in the sheaves and the shekels.

While the motive is primarily financial, the plot has a political aspect as well. It would wreck the program of President Roosevelt to avoid inflation and preserve our domestic economy.

Political Motive Involved

That would give the opposition something to shout about in 1944 and the men who would shout the loudest would be those who brought it about, just as the men who did everything possible to scuttle national defense blamed the administration for not being prepared at Pearl Harbor.

The farm bloc program would be the greatest blow to the country since Pearl Harbor. It would be a major military upset because it would bring chaos in domestic economy and throw production schedules into confusion.

It would boost labor costs so drastically that contracts would have to be rewritten. But the more money labor received for its work, the less that money would buy.

That is what the farm bloc offers America. But the lobbyists don't worry about that any more than the Germans worry about what happens to any country after they have taken all the food.

Stripped of all camouflage, perversion and hokum, the farm bloc is exactly what the well-manicured lobbyist for the Farm Bureau described it when he threatened:

"By God, if this is a war industry, you've got to give us a price."

To which the government ought to reply:

"By God, this is war and if you don't raise the crops we'll take your farms."

Home Front Needs Teamsters, Too

— Beyer Explains Manpower Setup

By Otto S. Beyer

Director, Division of Transport Personnel, Office of Defense Transportation

SINCE the beginning of December, several changes have come about in the manpower picture. As a result of President Roosevelt's executive order of December 5, Paul V. McNutt, chairman of the War Manpower Commission, assumed complete control of the Selective Service System. At the same time his powers over the whole field of manpower were increased so that the lives of millions of Americans are affected by the operations of the War Manpower Commission. Voluntary enlistment in the armed services has been eliminated, although for a temporary period enlistments in the Navy, Marines, and Coast Guard are permitted after clearance with local selective service boards. Finally, the army announced that men 38 years of age and over would no longer be drafted for military service.

Will Affect Teamsters

These changes will have very definite effects on members of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters. For one thing, men 38 and over who are not already in the armed services will be available for jobs in industry. Those Teamsters who are not now engaged in an essential activity may be requested to take jobs in essential war work.

Then, too, Chairman McNutt may specify that all hiring and recruiting in certain industries or areas be conducted through the United States Employment Service. The continued deferment because of dependents will

be affected by what a man is doing to help win the war. When a dependency status ceases to be a reason for deferment, the work of the individual determines whether or not a man will be reclassified.

In connection with questions relating to both hiring and selective service status, a man should clearly bear in mind that his status will depend to a large extent on whether or not he is working in an "essential activity." The United States Employment Service of the War Manpower Commission may encourage him to transfer to war work if he is not in an essential activity; and whether or not he is engaged in an essential activity is taken into consideration by his selective service local board in determining his classification.

Activities which the War Manpower Commission has certified as essential are:

- 1.** Those directly engaged in war production (airplane factories, tank factories, farming, food processing, steel mills, copper mines, etc.).

- 2.** Those industries necessary to the maintenance of war production plants (transportation service, communication services, light and power plants, etc.).

- 3.** Those activities essential to national safety, health, and welfare (water systems, sewage systems, hospitals, etc.).

To date, 35 activities have been designated as essential. Employers should be aware of these listings. The

information can be obtained from the nearest local office of the War Manpower Commission.

Teamsters will remember the occupational questionnaire they filled out when registering under the selective service act. This questionnaire indicated not only the work the registrant was employed in at that time, but also any other skills he might possess.

Examine Questionnaires

The U. S. Employment Service has the authority to look these questionnaires over, and to encourage those workers who are not using their highest skills to transfer to a war job in which those skills can be used, if these jobs cannot be filled by other means.

The present manpower shortage makes it imperative that each person be used where he will do the most good.

A Teamster who is working in an essential activity, however, may only be requested by the U. S. Employment Service to change his job when *the individual is not using his highest skills in his present work.*

For example, a freight handler who is a qualified heavy duty truck driver would not be working at his highest skill. Any attempt on the part of a local office of the employment service to persuade an employee in any of the essential activities whose job uses his greatest occupational skills to transfer to a so-called "war" industry is not in accordance with the policies of the War Manpower Commission.

Will Use Hiring Halls

To further assure that essential industries get needed manpower, the chairman of the War Manpower Commission can designate certain industries, occupations, or geographical areas in which no employer can hire men unless those men have been re-

ferred to him by the employment service. It is not expected that this authority will be used until the manpower situation becomes much more serious and Chairman McNutt has already declared that when control over hiring does become necessary, other established employment offices, such as union hiring halls, will be used to help place the right worker in the right job at the right time.

Naturally, where only limited quantities of manpower are available, the industries most important to the war will get workers and other industries will have to do without. If a man is unemployed or desires to transfer from a less essential activity, he should register with the U. S. Employment Service in order to be directed to a job where he is most needed.

Working in an essential activity may make a man eligible for an occupational deferment. If he is married or has dependents, working in an essential activity makes him eligible for Class 3-B. Class 3-B workers are not liable for induction until workers in *non-essential activities* in their localities have been called.

List Essential Occupations

As to the first of these possibilities, the War Manpower Commission issued lists of essential occupations for each essential activity. These occupations are those "which require six months or more of training and preparation, and which must be filled by persons capable of performing the duties involved, in order that the activity may be maintained efficiently."

Persons working in those jobs are eligible for occupational deferment (Class 2-A or 2-B). In over-the-road trucking services, for example, drivers of heavy trucks, semi-trailers, or trailers are considered as being engaged in an essential occupation.

Members in other essential activities for which lists of essential occupations have not yet been issued may consult their local boards to determine if the occupation in which they are employed would be considered essential for that activity. Likewise, the lists issued are by no means exclusive.

Men in other occupations in these activities also may be deferred if their local boards are convinced that they are essential.

Consult Draft Board

The mere fact that a man is working in a job which has been listed as an essential occupation in support of the war effort does not mean that he will be granted deferment from military service, however. He, or his employer, will first have to convince the local board that if he were inducted and the company could not replace him, the effective operation of the company would be hindered and further that the company has tried—but failed—to find a suitable replacement, and will continue to seek his replacement.

If the board finds that these conditions exist, it will grant an occupational deferment, but only for a period of six months at one time and for no longer than is deemed necessary to find or train someone not liable for military service to fill the job. In no case will a deferment be for longer than six months, although additional deferments may be granted if the local board believes they are justified.

With regard to eligibility for Class 3-B, members of the Teamsters' Union will want to bear in mind that employment in any kind of work in essential activities qualifies a registrant with dependents for a 3-B classification. The man of military service age who has dependents and also is

engaged in an occupation essential to the war effort thus receives preferential treatment in that he will not be called until after men with the same type of dependents who are not engaged in war work have been reclassified.

Following the passage of the servicemen's dependents allowance act of 1942, which provides allowances and allotments to the dependents of men in the armed forces, the Bureau of Selective Service provided for the classification of men with dependents into six groups—depending both upon the nature of the dependents and the work of the registrant. These groups are:

Group I: Class 3-A; those registrants who have collateral dependents (father, mother, brother, etc.) and who *are not* working in an essential activity.

Group II: Class 3-B; registrants who have collateral dependents (father, mother, brother, etc.) and who *are* working in an essential activity.

Group III: Class 3-A; registrants who maintain a bona fide family relationship with wife, and who *are not* working in an essential activity.

Group IV: Class 3-B; registrants who maintain a bona fide family relationship with wife, and who *are* working in an essential activity.

Group V: Class 3-A; registrants who maintain a bona fide family relationship with wife and children or with children alone, and who *are not* working in an essential activity.

Group VI: Class 3-B; registrant maintaining a bona fide family relationship with wife and children or with children alone, who *are* working in an essential activity.

Thus under present regulations

men in Group II are not reclassified until all men in their locality in Group I have been reclassified. Men in Group IV are not reclassified until all men in Group III have been reclassified.

The men in Groups V and VI will not be reclassified except on direct order from the director of selective service.

A member of the Teamsters' Union who has dependents and is employed in one of the essential activities is eligible for Class 3-B, and for Group II, IV, or VI, because of the nature of his work and according to the nature of his dependency.

Both the employment service and the Bureau of Selective Service have difficult jobs in performing the functions discussed above in such a way that America's manpower can be most effectively used. They cannot do this if they do not know everything about your case, and the only persons who can give them the necessary information are you and your employer. If you are working in an essential activity, therefore, you should:

1. Notify your employer of your draft status.

2. Notify your employer of any reclassification or change in your status that might cause your reclassification so he can take immediate steps for your replacement. If he cannot replace you immediately, he can ask for an occupational deferment on Form 42-A.

3. If you have dependents, your employer should file Form 42-A or Form 42-B so that your draft board will be advised that you are employed in an essential activity and place you in Class 3-B.

4. Be fair and cooperative in evaluating your skills if the U. S. Employment Office interviews you regarding your occupational questionnaire. If you are capable of doing more highly skilled work than you are now doing, it is your duty to your country to do that work. If you are working at your highest skill in an essential activity it is also your duty to your country to inform the employment service that you are working in an essential activity, doing your best work, *and stay on that job*, since unnecessary turnover decreases the effectiveness of that industry's efforts.

Cincinnati Local Buys More Bonds

A PURCHASE of \$50,000 in War Bonds was made by Local No. 100 during a recent bond rally in Cincinnati. This brings the total investment of the union to \$65,000, according to Secretary Otto H. Frobe.

"We have tried to promote the sale of War Bonds among our membership because, as we have told them, they are not only aiding their country, but these war bonds are also a protection and savings for them-

selves and their families," Frobe said.

"We have also tried to impress upon them that in this day of strife and turmoil we have to double our efforts in all these drives, especially the scrap drives, in order to hold the freedom that we have known and felt in this country of democracy.

"We will always do our share to provide our country with all the equipment she needs while our fathers, sons and brothers are fighting over there."

Regular purchases of War Bonds bring death to Japs and Germans. Get that satisfied feeling that comes with regularity!

Truck Tonnages Up 900 Per Cent —

Tobin Corrects Forrestal

THE importance of the trucking industry to the war was stressed by President Tobin in a recent letter to Under Secretary of the Navy James V. Forrestal protesting his statement that long-distance trucking could be reduced to a fraction of present operations.

Cargoes, mostly in emergency requirements, exceeded a million tons for the months of August, September and October, 1942, representing an increase in truck tonnage of more than 900 per cent in the first months of the war.

President Tobin's letter to Forrestal may have given him a new conception of the military advantage of highway transportation which has shown its ability to meet the emergency demands upon it. The letter is reproduced below.

My Dear Mr. Secretary:

I have a copy of a statement made by you and contained in a letter dated December 15, 1942, to Mr. Eastman, (director of the ODT). The statement deals with the rubber situation.

I am wondering if you are actually in a position to understand the importance of trucking to the nation at this time. If the army and navy had depended upon the railroads within the last year to handle all of the freight which has been hauled by trucks, both important departments of our government would have been practically stagnated.

Of course you know that even now the railroads are not able to handle the amount of freight and passenger service required. If you lived out here in the Middle West and endeavored to

get transportation, even on important government business, you would find by personal experience how thoroughly the facilities of the railroads have been overtaxed. There is so much congestion that it is impossible to describe it unless you have had personal experience.

The millions of tons of freight handled by trucks has been the keystone to the great progress we are making in this war. The International Brotherhood of Teamsters is doing everything in its power to conserve rubber, but when men of your understanding and experience state that long-distance trucking "can be reduced to a fraction of what it is now," it is difficult to blame the uninformed public for any criticism directed towards governmental officials.

If your suggestion as embodied in your letter to Mr. Eastman and as quoted above—that "long distance trucking can be reduced to a fraction of what it is now"—were carried out, you would run the chance of paralyzing the entire war effort of the nation.

Confiscate Private Cars

I suggested to the President and also to Mr. Eastman at least eight months ago that owners of all private cars that were not absolutely necessary for use in connection with the war be asked to contribute the cars, or all of the tires, to the government; and that if, after a period of time, the response was not satisfactory, our government should confiscate those private cars that were unnecessary, for the purpose of using the tires. My suggestion was thought worth consideration but it was thought the time

had not yet come to put into practice such extreme measures.

There are certain classes of trucks now that have been pulled off in many places, such as department store delivery trucks. Dry cleaning establishments have decreased the operation of their pick-up and delivery trucks but still I find thousands of passenger cars, run by private owners, which I know are not necessary to be on the streets. They are using both gasoline and rubber needed elsewhere.

Needs More Information

Having had occasion recently in Washington to look into the amount of tonnage hauled by trucks for the war and navy departments, I was astounded at the amount of freight being handled by trucks that could not possibly have been handled by the railroads.

I take the liberty, Mr. Secretary, as a friend who has confidence in your ability and sincerity, to request that you endeavor to get all the information necessary before you suggest putting into practice the suggestions contained in your letter to Mr. Eastman.

The railroads are doing a wonderful job considering how they have been destroyed by financiers and brokers and manipulators during the past thirty or forty years. When this war broke out their equipment had run

down; they had cut their help to the bone in order to try to meet the interest rate on their bonds to banks.

Many men in public life, even dating back to the days of Theodore Roosevelt, have known how the railroads of the nation were sabotaged by financiers and those who had no desire for any other achievement than to get rich. Our country at this crucial moment is exceptionally fortunate that we are not entirely dependent upon the railroads and coastal steamships to handle the amount of freight and materials that are now being handled by the great trucking chains of the nation, whose owners have invested their capital and have been making only a very reasonable return on their honest, actual investment.

Instead of reducing or minimizing or endangering the trucking of the nation, it seems to be the judgment of many men who have watched and studied the entire history of transportation that trucking should be increased and promoted by the building of super-highways and by other methods, because over-the-road trucking is a safety valve of protection for our country, as I think has been, and will be more thoroughly demonstrated at the ending of this great world conflict in which we are engaged in behalf of civilization.

Norfolk Central Body Elects Welsted

BUSINESS AGENT I. C. WELSTED, Local No. 822 of Norfolk, Va., has been elected president of the Norfolk Central Labor Union, according to the report of Recording Secretary W. B. Heath of Local No. 822 to the International.

The Teamster local has been affiliated with the central body since 1937 and was greatly dissatisfied with

the policies and methods of those in control.

Heath said that the central labor union was controlled by political satellites of the Byrd and Glass machine, who were more interested in politics than in labor questions. The election of Welsted to the presidency is viewed with satisfaction by the Norfolk labor movement, Heath reported.

Unions Blundering Into Noose

— Shirk Bargaining Responsibility

By Chester M. Wright

In his weekly labor news letter from Washington, D. C.

UNIONS are blundering into a regulatory noose. They are asking the National War Labor Board to decide too many minor details of local contracts.

Employers are equally at fault, equally in danger.

The National War Labor Board is fighting the trend. Its members fear a breakdown of collective bargaining procedures if trend continues.

But NWLB must act on any issue if unions and employers refuse to bargain and thereby bring about work stoppages. In case of CIO Packinghouse Workers and the Wilson Co., the CIO arbitrator has written virtually a complete contract.

Most unions and employers seeking temporary advantages from NWLB are not entirely aware of the bureaucratic regulations that they are inviting—a government dictation of labor-management relations which could outlast the war.

Board members are waiting for a chance to make the situation clear to

President R. J. Thomas of the CIO Auto Workers, and to remind him what they think of a fellow board

member who launches blistering attacks on the board for not settling disputes fast enough while neglecting his share of the work to the extent of attending only two out of sixty-two board meetings.

Board members are suggesting that he resign from the NWLB.

A. F. of L. unions are also guilty of asking the board to dot the "i's" and cross the "t's" of contracts with employers.

Meantime — Communist Party followers are not floundering.

They are following a Communist "line" or policy without regard for the consequences to democracy

in the United States.

They want simply the greatest possible war production aid for Stalin. Their solution for the present labor dispute jam in NWLB would be to clean up the cases by autocratic procedure—wipe out tripartite public-employer-labor system, which takes

Unions are Warned

I personally hope that the War Labor Board gets fewer and fewer cases in which the parties ask the board to specify the detailed terms of their agreement. I am convinced that the parties can best meet their local problems by collective bargaining and that widespread requests to have such problems met by board directives will lead to an unfortunate breaking down of collective bargaining and of the local determination of conditions of work.

In the hands and the minds of the parties themselves lies the decision as to how much of the labor relations problem will be thrown to Washington. For the War Labor Board is in duty bound to settle those disputes that cannot be resolved by the parties and that would otherwise jeopardize the national interest.—Dr. George W. Taylor, Vice-Chairman, War Labor Board.

time, and instead give every regional director of NWLB power to dictate the entire employer-labor contract in dispute without privilege of appeal to a higher body.

Board members know the situation. NWLB decentralization procedures just worked out attempt to avoid the Communist program and still avoid the equally dangerous possibilities of a breakdown of voluntarism in collective bargaining resulting from serious delays in disposing of the load of labor disputes and voluntary wage agreements that have been submitted to the board.

An increase of the regulatory trend is inevitable in a war situation. The national administration tries to do it the democratic way, with consent of people, including labor and industry. A cross section of new labor developments illustrates the direction of that regulation.

Both CIO and A. F. of L. support voluntary, democratic procedures. A. F. of L. President William Green stressed the principle in a statement of legislative program for 1943 that workers make of their own accord the sacrifices citizens must bear in wartime, have pledged not to strike, work six and seven days, are giving up the right to decide for themselves when

and where they shall work, will double production of 1942.

A new method of punishing workers who stage slowdowns is inherent in the joint statement of procurement agencies covering the "cut-back" program of revising war contracts downward to meet revised war needs.

Preference in awards will be given to most efficient plants and one of the measures of efficient production is labor efficiency. Officers of the war and navy departments and officials of WPB will not deny that plants in which workers have staged slowdowns may be classified as lacking in required efficiency.

On the other hand, plants in which labor-management committees organized under WPB production drive have increased production efficiency could possibly be viewed in a favorable light.

Union strike threats in order to get NWLB to act on or speed up a labor dispute case are "highly improper" and exhibit "a callousness with respect to our national crisis which borders on lack of patriotism."

This NWLB statement was made by Wayne L. Morse in the case of California Metal Trades Association of San Francisco and Lodge No. 68, A. F. of L. Machinists.

He Brought Us a Sword, Too

TODAY every nerve is strained to enable this nation, through its armed forces, to kill as many enemies as possible and to do it as quickly as possible.

That's what it boils down to. We have got to blast into complete defeat the military might of Germany and Japan. That is our job until it is

done. And so there are many who think that somehow there is a big gap between our nation's job of killing and the gospel of the Prince of Peace. So many people think only of a Prince of Peace and never of a militant crusader. They forget "I bring you a sword!"

—*The Labor Union, Dayton, Ohio.*

☛ "Germans are always bearers of reconstruction and order and everywhere they go the land becomes a garden of God."—*German "news" broadcast on Oct. 1, 1941.* ☛

Benefits Will Come from War

By Joseph M. Casey

International Representative, Office of the General President

AS DREADFUL and gruesome as it does seem, the conclusion that definite and lasting good will result from this global war is warranted. Signs of this are apparent. There is a clear-cut and extensive trend in the thought of individuals and peoples that puts first things first.

There is a certain marked and correct order noticeable in our reasoning processes. The proper relation of cause to effect and of means to ends is gradually but surely gaining widespread acceptance. Our modern civilization is being viewed in fuller perspective. A social order that extolls material progress to the exclusion of the complete well-being of common humanity is a failure.

The technological development and material wealth of a nation or of a group of nations contributes nothing of a lasting nature if the curse of poverty remains saddled to the backs of the common people.

Victory Is First Step

This is the prime cause of the present world crisis, with military revolt playing the leading role for the present. Should victory crown the efforts of the democracies, right thinking people of the world over are convinced that the first step in the right direction will have been taken.

With the military phase of this world-wide revolt behind us, there will still remain the bigger task of affording to all peoples, weak or strong, rich or poor, the realities of a free, plentiful and secure existence.

Although the road ahead is alive with hope, there still remain some

glaring indications that the "robber barons" will not give up without a struggle. Their mercenary stooges are out-doing themselves in an effort to sabotage the ideals of democracy.

The puppets of big business are well nigh frantic in their efforts to blacken and destroy organized labor. They are not so much concerned about labor, but when labor organizes they see a definite threat to their autocratic rule. Millions of groundless charges are leveled at labor unions through a controlled press and radio.

Money Proves Effective

In the face of the greatest record of production in history, the magnates of a fast-dying monopoly are loudly but futilely attempting to blame labor for retarding our war effort.

With strikes at the lowest point in all times and picket lines totally nonexistent, our national congress and our state legislatures are plagued by big-moneyed lobbies to pass repressive and punitive laws against all unions.

These are the die-hard advocates of an order that must die with the winning of this war, or else the terrible price the common people are paying will prove but the second edition of a set series of world conflagrations.

Fortunately these reactionary disciples of the old order represent a decided minority. But the power of their dollars is tremendously effective and their every move must be carefully studied and reckoned. Their processes of false reasoning are couched in catchy phrases and developed behind false issues.

They argue and insist that labor unions should be regimented and controlled, but at the same time stupidly evade the full force and significance of such a policy if pursued to its fullest extent. Under such a set-up they must know that what they propose to do to labor can in turn be done to them—which, when all is said and done, hardly makes sense in a real democracy.

But do these oligarchs want democracy?

Haven't they, under the guise of an American democracy, been fooling the common people? Hasn't it taken the Roosevelt administration to expose this great American hoax? The Coolidge and the Hoover regimes blew up in our faces because they were fundamentally wrong.

Material progress was glorified as an end in itself, as a worthy goal of attainment, instead of a means to an end—the peace, security, happiness and well-being of the American people as a whole.

As amazing as it may seem, this is the very same error upon which Marxism collapses. A world of plenty does not mean a world of peace, especially if this plenty is not equitably distributed. Our United States was the most prosperous country in the

world but this prosperity did not prove a remedy against a tragic depression. And so a new order is the only answer, not alone in America, but in the entire world.

Common people the world over must be accorded their full deserts and the false philosophy of the devotees of capitalism must be rectified along these lines or else bow out of the economic picture forever. The world of tomorrow, the post-war world, is very definitely shaping itself now in the thoughts and plans of all countries.

Isolationists or no isolationists, there will come a federation of nations that will outlaw war as an instrument in adjusting international differences. All nations, small or big, strong or weak, will be assured a peaceful existence within their boundaries as members of the world family of nations. This can and must come about, or modern civilization as we have known it will give place to anarchy.

By the same token, the rights and privileges of these common people under their respective governments must likewise be assured and protected or rich and poor alike will be engulfed in a maelstrom of chaotic slaughter.

Hysterical Herr Hoffman Lies Again

JUST the other day the "Honorable" Clare E. Hoffman, congressman from Michigan, declared in a House speech that the President intended to starve Americans in order to feed Europeans and Asiatics. What could be more diabolical or mischievous than a statement of that kind?

If Hoffman is opposed to providing bread for the starving millions of Europe, why doesn't he come out and say so? Why was it necessary to insert a

deadly poison in his oratorical pill?

Any man who says that the President would deliberately starve the most humble American lies in his teeth and knows it.

The President's record on that score is too clear to be challenged. During the long years of depression he fought for food for hungry Americans, over the bitter opposition of Hoffman and other Tories.—*Charles M. Kelley in The Boilermakers' Journal.*

Clerics Warn Reactionaries

— Assail NAM and Farm Groups

THE sharp warning of two Catholic clerics regarding the rights of labor in the post-war world have created a deep impression among New York Teamsters according to Roland Ouellette of Local No. 816 in a letter to President Tobin.

Ouellette sent President Tobin quotations from the recent remarks of the Rt. Rev. John A. Ryan of Washington, D. C., and the Rev. William J. Smith of New York before a meeting of the American Catholic Sociological Society, as reported in New York by the Associated Press.

In his remarks Msgr. Ryan indicted the National Association of Manufacturers, the congressional majority and the large farm organizations. He also assailed the economic philosophy of ex-President Hoover by declaring that the returning soldiers will not be "fooled by the old claptrap concerning rugged individualism."

Labor Rights in Danger

"They will demand jobs, here and now," he said. "Labor may lose all the advantages that it has obtained since June, 1933, if it can be brought about by the dominant economic groups and their associates and satellites.

"That such is their deliberate desire and design is clearly indicated by certain significant events: The declarations of the National Association of Manufacturers; the attitudes and utterances of the majority of the metropolitan newspapers; the pronouncements and performances of the most powerful of the farm organizations, and the reactionary attitude of the

majority of the recently elected Congress. These persons and institutions are the authentic Bourbons of our time. They have learned nothing and forgotten nothing."

"Sir Oracle Pegler"

Supporting Msgr. Ryan, Father Smith declared:

"There would be less cries of Communism and attacks on big business and private enterprise and a greater demand for even stronger measures to benefit the working people if the truth were known. If fewer people accepted Westbrook Pegler as their Sir Oracle and more people dipped into some of the writings of men like Msgr. Ryan, we would have a saner view of the situation.

"I indict organized management as having fought the natural rights of the workers from the beginning of industrial relations in America.

"I have talked to labor mediators, arbitrators, business men, industrialists and working people. In spite of compliance with the few meager pieces of legislation that have been enacted to balance the industrial scale somewhat, there has not been too much change of heart."

Discredit Government

The letter from Ouellette enclosing the statements of the priests stated that the sentiments they expressed and the warnings they issued would be of equally great interest to President Tobin and Teamsters throughout the nation.

"We have too much at stake not to take this seriously," he wrote. "It

sort of gripped me when I read it. Ever since your recent article on this subject I have been greatly impressed."

This is a subject that should grip all members of labor. The organizations named by the two priests are now working overtime to erect the framework for a post-war economy that will deprive labor of all the gains it has made.

Their first step is to discredit the national government and to convince people that its social program consists of dangerous experiments and that its reforms are losing the war.

Then they plan to capture congress and the presidency in 1944 and write the kind of a peace that will bring back the era of economic autocracy that brought two world wars to one generation.

Mobile Local Has Own Building

THROUGH the efforts of Secretary Leo B. Carter and Teamsters' Union No. 991, some 25,000 members of A. F. of L. unions in Mobile, Alabama, have a new home and meeting halls capable of accommodating their growing membership.

The building is owned by Local No. 991 and office space is rented to several other crafts. The building also contains three auditoriums. Work on the building was begun almost a year ago during which it was completely remodeled.

It was dedicated at ceremonies attended by many local and federal officials, business men and civic leaders.

In its account of the progress made by local labor, the *Mobile Labor Journal* gave great credit to Carter, the International, and Local 991.

"Less than a year ago this local union was more or less living on sufferance. They had to borrow meeting halls. The protracted fight against the Southern Transit Company, long since defunct, had depleted their treasury and they were, generally speaking, in hock to everybody.

"When the fortunes of this local were at lowest ebb and there seemed to be no solution for its problems. The Indianapolis office of the International Teamsters came to the rescue

and secured the services of one of the South's most militant crusaders and leaders in the labor movement to handle the affairs of the local and bring true trade unionism to that field.

"Brother Leo Carter cautiously felt his way for the first few months, getting substantially sound contracts and making a reputation of living up to his word with the employer.

"The Teamsters became involved in several judicial squabbles, due to the fact that certain employer elements feared organization, without realizing that the Teamsters could be of invaluable economic assistance to them as employers. Some of these cases are still pending.

"Despite every attempt to stifle the progress of this organization, they went steadily ahead. They rented several offices on St. Michael Street, then they rented half the building, then a whole building and finally, improving each section of the buildings as they went along, they were able to proudly point to almost a block of buildings combined into one building—housing more than 16 local unions, representing more than 25,000 union men. That such a centralization of union activity was needed has been long recognized. However we were all long on talk and short on performance."

Truck Driver Shortage Critical

— Training Program is Launched

ALL joint councils have been requested to contact the regional offices of the Office of Defense Transportation to assist in the nation-wide program for training essential employees in the trucking industry.

The shortage of truck drivers is particularly serious in 25 large cities and the joint councils in those areas are urged to move immediately to fill the requirements of the industry.

Aside from the large induction of Teamsters into the fighting services, the industry was further handicapped by the loss of 4,760 men who enlisted in two trucking regiments organized by the army for immediate overseas duty.

Teamsters Enlist Rapidly

The ranks of the two regiments were filled before the army had a chance to advertise nationally for recruits. As soon as the word got out, the Teamsters enlisted instantly, thus following the heroic trail blazed by the 1,700 men who volunteered for duty on the Burma Road before Pearl Harbor.

Cities in which the supply of truck drivers is critical were listed at a recent meeting of the ODT with Teamster national officials as Akron, Boston, Baltimore, Buffalo, Chicago, Cincinnati, Cleveland, Columbus, Denver, Detroit, Hartford, Kansas City, Los Angeles, Louisville, Minneapolis, New York, Oakland, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, Portland, Ore., St. Louis, Salt Lake City, San Diego, San Francisco and Seattle.

By beginning a training program now, the industry can train men to fill present vacancies and also future de-

mands which will become heavier as more men go into service and more war work is performed by the trucking industry.

Will Need 65,000 Men

By next June 65,000 new workers will be needed, according to estimates of the ODT. The training program will be not only to break in new men, but to qualify older men for better jobs and more pay.

The plan for training has been discussed with the national committee of the Teamsters' Union in periodic meetings in Washington, D. C. It calls for the training program to be carried on under local committees representing the operators, the union and the government.

It will train not only drivers, but repair men, rate clerks, dispatchers, etc.

The training program for operators covers safety and first aid, billing and checking, preparation of reports, familiarity with invoices and way bills, identification of materials and their handling, ICC regulations, state and local highway laws, roads and routes to terminal points, the mechanical operation of various types of trucks and tractors and the conservation of tires, equipment and fuel.

Immediate surveys of the needs in various localities are requested by the ODT under local committees representing the employers and the union.

One purpose of the government is to provide trained men in the critical areas without bringing in new men from outside points whose presence would further aggravate overtaxed housing facilities.

Local Hits Wildcat Strike —

Six New York Drivers Suspended

SIX members of Local No. 138 in New York City were suspended by their union and fired by their employer because of an unauthorized strike against the Sachs Quality Furniture Co.

Officials of the International in Indianapolis praised the action of Local No. 138 and declared that similar determination by other unions would prevent the necessity for such drastic discipline in the future.

"The membership must understand that we are in the midst of a war which we must win if we are to preserve any of the union conditions we have obtained through years of hardship and effort," declared President Tobin.

Invite Anti-Labor Laws

"The least that labor can do is to remain at work to support those who are doing the fighting to perpetuate our democracy. Labor has given its pledge that there shall be no more strikes during the war. It cannot keep that pledge if irresponsible and undisciplined agitators are permitted to stop work at any time on any pretext.

"Men who cannot abide by the rules of the union have no place in it. The rules represent the decision of the majority and were adopted for the protection of the majority. They must be observed and enforced. Every time a union fails to discipline rebellious members it provides an argument for those who are constantly demanding harsh federal laws against organized labor."

According to the report of President Abe Price of Local No. 138 to the International, the drivers and helpers

for the Sachs company stopped work suddenly without authority from the business agent in charge of the shop or the knowledge of union officials.

"A special executive board meeting was called that same night and the board went on record to suspend all of these men unless they returned to work the following morning at 8 o'clock," Price reported. "The men refused to return to work and another executive board meeting was held and the men were notified that they were suspended from Local No. 138 pending the outcome of the arbitration of the New York State Board of Mediation."

After the men had been on the street for a week, the arbitrator handed down a decision in which he severely reprimanded the strikers, commended the action of the local union and ruled that the employer would be permitted to fill the places of all the strikers.

The company agreed to re-employ all but six of the strikers. The jobs of these strikers were then given to six other members of Local No. 138 in good standing.

Union Gets Tough

To protect itself, the union dispatched telegrams immediately after the wildcat strike to the Sachs company and the New York board of mediation, disclaiming all responsibility for the strike.

Price declared that as a result of the strike, the local union has ruled that in any repetition of such unauthorized action, all members participating shall be immediately suspended and will face charges for expulsion from the union.

Delivery Systems Endangered

— Many Men May Lose Jobs

By Daniel J. Tobin

I CANNOT refrain again from mentioning the serious problems that confront us throughout the nation in regard to rubber and now gasoline. I recently mailed a copy of an order contemplated to be put into effect by the Office of Defense Transportation, as represented by Commissioner Rogers, to all of our local unions.

I requested the officers of our unions to read certain paragraphs dealing with our delivery system.

I stated that the positions of many of our members in the delivery systems, and perhaps in light trucking, were endangered, and I requested that the local officers reading the order and my letter inform their members at their meetings as to the dangers confronting our employment.

After all, I am satisfied that our members, even if they lose their employment, if they are educated as to the necessity for the enforcement of such rules and decisions, would not be difficult to deal with. In other words, they would be willing to make some sacrifices.

The other night I picked up the paper and I read where mothers and wives in Boston were standing in line

for hours with tin cans trying to get some oil, kerosene or any other kind, to heat their homes where their children were freezing.

Many cities and towns on the eastern seaboard are evacuating the women and children because of the cold and because of the shortage of fuel oils. Our members, of course, ask the one question, "Why is this condition obtaining?"

They cannot understand and they simply keep on blaming everybody, especially the government. This is only natural and they cannot be condemned, because they should not be expected to know as much as the officers, who should make a study of the situation.

The plain truth is this: that our tankers hauling fuel oil and gasoline were sunk by German submarines in great numbers along the eastern seaboard. The few tankers that are left are those we have been able to build in recent months, and they are used for the purpose of hauling gasoline to England and to our other allies who are engaged with us in fighting this war to the death.

Stop sending gasoline and fuel oil to our friends and allies and you end

We Will Sacrifice!

More and more we will live in a war atmosphere. We will be called upon in 1943 to perform harder tasks, to work longer hours.

We will face the necessity of making sacrifices that hurt—never doubt that! We will take the rationing like good Americans.

Teamsters do not have to be told that this is their war, they do not require constant preachments about their duty. Without exception we have made our choice; we are willing to serve anywhere and any time our country asks.

—The Washington Teamster.

the war immediately — in favor of Germany.

If, therefore, our government is compelled, in order to save civilization, to give the fuel oil and the gasoline and some of the rubber to our allies in order to carry on the war—well, who of us should complain?

If women and children are freezing in Boston for the want of fuel oil to create heat, why should a bakery driver or a milk driver complain if his deliveries are cut down and he loses some work? I am sure if the average member knew the real situation he would understand that sacrifices must be made.

1,500,000 Men Overseas

You heard, or should have read, President Roosevelt's speech to the Congress on January 7. You heard him state that there were 1,500,000 of our men in uniform now outside the territory of the United States. That means that they are across the water or in Alaska, or some other place outside of the United States. Our guess is that ninety-nine per cent of them are on the other side of one of the two oceans.

This did not include the thousands of men who are risking their lives daily in the Merchant Marine, the men who man the innumerable ships that are carrying freight and ammunition across the water to the people of Europe and Asia.

Among those ordinary seamen attached to the Merchant Marine, the number of casualties has been greater than in the regular naval forces of the nation, although those seamen are not classified as fighting men.

Who, then, wants to grumble and complain and whine at being asked to help and to make some sacrifices in employment when called upon to do so?

Bear this in mind: that the International Union, through its influence and its committees working night and day, is doing everything possible to save our employment for our members.

And to this end, the national committee handling the rubber situation is continuing with hearings and meetings and arguments with governmental authorities in Washington trying to preserve not only the employment of their own members, but the employment of all of our members, even the local unions that sometimes, through their officers, growl and grumble and find fault because of their ignorance of the entire situation.

I am quoting below an extract from a letter from the chairman of the rubber committee, Dave Beck, for your information:

"It is not necessary for me to tell you what a fine job all the boys are doing on this rubber committee and we are indeed fortunate that you, yourself, have been right out in front from the very start, advocating and developing the machinery through which we operate.

Made Deep Impression

"It has required a tremendous amount of extra work and I cannot begin to say how appreciative I am, and I know you are, for those boys who are giving of their time and getting the finances from their local joint councils in order to carry on this work.

"I know they made a tremendous impression upon Commissioners Eastman, Rogers, Beyer and all the others and the whole tenor of relations between the ODT and our organization has completely changed, primarily since the night you arranged the meeting at the Washington Hotel, where Commissioners Eastman, Rogers and

Beyer were first brought into actual contact with our committee. I know that from time to time it must seem an almost impossible task that confronts us, but I am positive that we will find ways and means to carry on with the minimum of disturbance."

Before you read this article there will be another meeting with Commissioner Rogers and his associates in Washington on this rubber situation and on our light delivery service, but one thing our people must understand is that we are in WAR, and everyone will be compelled to make sacrifices before we are through.

As I have stated in my mailed mes-

sages to our unions, we have not yet begun to suffer, either in our employment or in other ways, in comparison to what we will be called upon to do and to give up before we are through with this war.

It isn't pleasant for me to have to be so direct in my explanations and expressions, but it is my duty to tell you the facts so that you may be prepared, and to tell you also that night and day we are working and striving, sometimes gaining a little headway, at other times losing in our battle of explanations with governmental authorities, endeavoring to preserve and continue your employment.

A Teamster at Sea Sends His Greetings

FROM somewhere at sea aboard one of Uncle Sam's newest and biggest fighting ships comes New Year greetings from a Teamster. He is Thomas N. Kinnear, motor machinist's mate second class, serving on a ship of the type that recently shot down 30 Jap planes.

Kinnear is a member of Local No. 624 of San Rafael, Calif., and his letter was forwarded to us by Secretary Clyde Simon. It was dated December 29 and says:

"Yesterday I received the November issue of *The International Teamster*. This issue was mailed to my home address in Santa Rosa and my wife forwarded it to me. Needless to say, I was glad to receive the issue and read it until 'lights out' last night.

"It makes a fellow like myself feel nearer to home and friends and also gives us new hope to know that our

friends and brothers are doing such a fine job on the home front.

"During this holiday season there are many of us who are in far-away places. Let us hold the hope for the New Year that the United States and her allies may speedily put an end to Hitler, Hirohito & Co.

"I am sure this will come to pass if the home front keeps up the splendid work you are doing. May I take this opportunity to wish one and all a happy and prosperous New Year. No doubt this will be a bit late, but better late than never.

"Any news or addresses of friends or brothers in the service will be deeply appreciated."

If you want to write a seagoing Teamster who is following the flag, wherever it may lead him, his address is "A Division, U. S. S. Indiana, care of Fleet Postmaster, New York City."

Congressman Louis Ludlow of Indiana was almost defeated by an opponent who was in the hospital during the entire campaign. Ludlow won by a handful of votes. If he had had a healthy opponent it might have been a different story. Labor failed to indorse Ludlow because of the record he made in obstructing the President. He must stand on his record again next year.

Unions, Like Army, Need Discipline

— War Imposes New Obligation

YOU cannot run an army without discipline. The success of armies has been due to the observance of rules and discipline. Many of the men resent some of the orders, but it is not what one or two believe; it is what is best for the entire army and its mission that governs such orders.

So it is with unions. They must be conducted in accordance with the laws made by the general membership, and when one or two or three, or a hundred, violate those laws, the International Union is better off without them.

The great success of your International has been due to the fact that we try to be as fair as we can, but we also must remember the obligations placed upon us and must observe and carry out the laws.

Your union stands forth today as one of the greatest unions in America. That is because we have endeavored to raise the standard of our members, to be lenient and just in the application of dues and initiations, to be considerate with the unthinking, untrained, new member; to be just with our employers, to discipline the unfair employer within our laws and the laws of the land and to expel from our membership those unworthy of membership who have betrayed their trust.

When your next convention meets in Los Angeles, you will be stronger than you are now if you continue along the road that you have been traveling for the past 25 years.

If you deviate or falter or refuse to obey laws or play false to your trust, you can be weakened and de-

stroyed as quickly as you have been built up. The next two years will see very strenuous efforts made to destroy the gains that labor has obtained during the past ten years.

The leaders of labor must be watchful, must be on their guard, must be up and doing, must be men of courage and intelligence, diplomats who are not afraid. They must be men who will not blunder or shirk danger when required to put into effect disagreeable orders in the interests of the membership, even though the membership misunderstands and is displeased. Get rid of the local officer who plays tricky politics or is weak.

The crucial test of labor will be within the next two or perhaps four years. Only those who are strong, possessed of the qualifications referred to above, should be permitted to represent labor. Above all, observance of laws and decisions laid down by the International Union, whether you like them or not, must obtain.

For instance, we order men back to work sometimes when we know that if we were not in war they are justified in stopping work. That is not pleasing to us, but it is a necessary action to save our country and carry out the orders from and the promises made to our government in this crucial hour. It is not up to you to question that authority.

Obedience is the proof of the real union man or soldier. The disturber down in the line whose narrow brain cannot fathom or understand the seriousness of the questions involved and the dangers surrounding our country—such an individual and his

associates should be discontinued as members of our union. Let them trot around and find work in some other employment where they can do as they like. They can't do as they like in our organization, simply because we can't do as we like. We must ob-

serve the laws made by our conventions and the laws and rules and orders given by our government. These are days that try men's souls. You are the soldiers in the trenches of industry. Without your aid and labor our military forces would be helpless.

\$6,000,000 Drive Goes Over —

Pittsburgh Boosts Bond Sales

THE success of the six million dollar war bond campaign in the Pittsburgh area has been announced by the labor-management committee representing the Pennsylvania Motor Truck Association and Joint Council No. 40.

Put on with the cooperation of the Treasury Department at Washington, D. C., the campaign aimed to enroll all of the employees of the motor truck industry in Pennsylvania in the allocation of 10 per cent of their earnings for the purchase of war bonds.

Local No. 609 was the first affiliate of the Pittsburgh joint council to report that its members had signed up 100 per cent to loan their funds to their government in its war for survival.

The campaign was stimulated at the start by the presence of a young marine from Guadalcanal, Pvt. James Gorman of Philadelphia. Gorman, home recovering from wounds received in action, was in great demand as a speaker to give his first-hand account of what the fighting men of America are up against and how much they required the support of the working men.

After hearing the eighteen-year-old veteran of some of the world's fiercest fighting, hundreds of Pennsylvania union men decided that if Gorman can give his blood to his country,

they at least can loan their money.

President Albert Dietrich, president of the council, assigned the promotional committee, consisting of Harvey Bierman, Edward Ley and Meyer Rosenthal, to work with the truck operators in making the drive a success.

How well the labor-management committee worked was attested by a bulletin issued by the treasury department in appreciation.

"We want to thank both labor and management for the fine, splendid cooperation they gave the trucking industry drive," it stated. "We particularly want to thank the promotional committees of the Pennsylvania Motor Truck Association and Joint Council of Teamsters No. 40.

"They labored long and hard and willingly gave us and their government the type of cooperation that we now know will result in this campaign's being a 100 per cent success.

"The trucking industry, through labor and management, will, when victory is won, firmly establish itself as a leader in both the hauling of vital materials and helping finance this gigantic war. Labor and management have done it again, which proves one thing—nothing is too big for these two groups when they settle down to do a job."

Key to Inflation Control —

Spend Less and Save More

By Prof. Irving Fisher

Economist, Yale University

Written for A. F. of L. Union Label Feature Service

WE COME now to the most important method for controlling inflation. This is a fundamental method and one much emphasized by the President and Secretary Morgenthau.

It consists simply in less spending and more saving. Carried to its limits this would mean that the people of the United States would spend only on absolute necessities and that all the remainder of their income would go in taxes or be invested in the war effort — whether through the government or privately.

To obtain this result an effective system of priorities and rationing will become increasingly important. Moreover, rationing would serve, of course, to make the wartime distribution of goods more equitable.

No financial program more effective than this for winning the war is possible. If such a disposition of the national income is insufficient to prevent inflation, then inflation cannot be prevented at all.

Eliminate Non-Essentials

This program, if fully carried out, would entirely eliminate, for the duration, all non-essentials whatsoever. The totals of these run into many billions, perhaps fifty billions, which would then be made available for the war effort instead of for our personal pleasures.

Of the two good ways in which the income of the people of the United States can go to the United States

government, namely, through taxes or through loans out of savings, the treasury is over-stressing taxes. We should rely chiefly on loans.

A loan program can go far beyond any tax program in gathering funds into the treasury. This ought to be obvious. For almost all the national income beyond bare necessities could be put into the war effort through loans and investments, but it could not possibly be gathered into the treasury in taxes. Any attempt at such tax gathering would destroy the income to be gathered. In short, few people will produce as much if their product has to be confiscated by Uncle Sam, as they will if it can be lent instead.

Untax All Savings

We must, I believe, *untax* savings, or else we run the risk, by taxing them, of killing the goose that lays the golden egg; for savings mean future income. The treasury has proposed a spendings tax in addition to the present income taxes. I approve of this and in fact I believe it is based largely on my book, *Constructive Income Taxation*, recently published. I would, however, go much further. More important than the taxing of spendings is the untaxing of savings. I would take off all corporate income taxes and put the equivalent, or near equivalent, on personal incomes, so far as they are spent and not saved. This would raise more revenue than now and distribute the burden more

equitably. At present when a "rich" corporation pays an income of 75 per cent, every one of its stockholders, however poor, is indirectly taxed that same 75 per cent, though he ought in justice to pay little or nothing.

To summarize, the utmost we can contribute to the war effort economically would result from the following program:

1. Force down all individual spendings, as nearly as practicable, to the barest necessities. This can be done in any or all of the following ways:
 - (a) By taxing all spendings beyond the rock bottom minimum of necessities and making this spending tax steeply progressive, thus virtually prohibiting all the luxurious spending.
 - (b) By judicious, but comprehensive, rationing.
 - (c) By priorities.
 - (d) By otherwise prohibiting for the duration the production of certain specific non-essentials where they are definitely known to be deleterious.
 - (e) By prohibiting, as in Canada, the advertising of all goods the consumption of which it is decided to discourage.
2. Untax all savings, private and corporate. Now that we have to

shoot away our savings, we ought not to be taxing them away besides.

3. In addition to voluntary subscriptions to war bonds and stamps, develop a system of compulsory subscriptions. Such compulsion would not discourage savings and production as do taxes on savings now. An ingenious proposal of Professor Haensel for a semi-lottery might help enormously the voluntary subscriptions.
4. Reform our monetary system, especially by reintroducing 100 per cent reserves behind demand deposits.

Such a program would be drastic, but it might make any more drastic price control than now unnecessary. Moreover, such price control would be far easier to enforce than it is now; for there would be little or no inflationary gap to interfere.

Without such a drastic policy I greatly fear that the inflationary gap cannot be closed. It never has been closed in any other great war and this war is the greatest of all time.

Inflation is certainly a worse compulsion than any compulsion here advocated.

And insofar as inflation is allowed to come without the mitigation of an index wage, it will spell for labor the disaster of a general wage cut.

Good Union Man Observes Union Rules

THE proof of a good union man is one who observes the decisions made by his local union in grievances or trials or in other actions of the local, such as amendments to the by-laws, when carried properly. Anyone can make a mistake and violate the rules, but when a decision is made by

a local union executive board or by the membership, the real test of a union man is his observance of the decisions, provided, of course, that he has the right to appeal if he honestly and sincerely believes that his rights have been violated according to the constitution of the International Union.

Donates \$500 for Negro Defense

— But Not for Agitators

A CONTRIBUTION of \$500 has been made by the International to the Workers' Defense League, but with the proviso by President Tobin that it shall not be used "to pay the expenses of agitators who are endeavoring to create or intensify racial prejudice."

The contribution was made to assist the League in obtaining justice for the Negro population, an objective with which the International is heartily in accord, President Tobin told the organization in a letter accompanying the donation.

Admit Negro Members

"I might also call to your attention that we have donated money within the last two years to help to abolish the poll tax in the southern states as a requirement for voting. We have done other things to be helpful in obtaining justice for the Negro population of our country.

"We admit to membership Negroes who are qualified to do our work and we place the responsibility on the employer as to whether or not those applicants for membership are qualified to perform the work. Our local membership, therefore, cannot discriminate against a Negro who seeks employment at our craft, in a warehouse or in any other branch. The entire responsibility as to the ability of the individual to perform the work, is left with the employer. We demand the same wages for Negroes as we do for whites if they are performing the same kind of employment.

"We object, however, to any of our money being used to pay the expenses

of agitators who are endeavoring to create or intensify racial prejudice.

"I have followed the history of the progress of the Negro race closely for the past 50 years and I have no hesitancy in saying that while there is injustice in individual cases perhaps in some of our southern states, every advancement made by the Negro in our country has been brought about mainly by the aid of the white population of the United States.

"Lincoln, the Emancipator, and those who surrounded him, were white men. And I want to see greater and greater and more and more justice and freedom given to the Negro; and while we are making perhaps what might be considered by some as slow progress, we are still gaining and advancing.

"But this will be hindered by so-called agitators who make indirect threats against the white race because everything they desire has not been brought about immediately.

"We must be careful and sure of our movements in order to gain that which is just, based on our laws, and to continue the progress, which I hold we have made, in disestablishing hatreds and prejudices.

Everyone Has Grievances

"There is no phase of life perfect. Most large institutions and classes have grievances — or at least they hold they have grievances—but those wrongs that prevail are gradually being righted, and only through time and education will we be able to bring about a greater measure of justice for all classes that are not receiving what

we consider justice in accordance with the Declaration of Independence and the proclamations of freedom which are part of the clean, democratic record of the United States. Just now especially there should be unity and understanding more than ever before, when the freedom of all classes and the civilization of the world is in danger."

The League reported to President Tobin that a Negro Teamster of Binghams, N. Y., had been paroled from prison by Gov. Poletti, who acted on

the statement of the appellate division of the state supreme court that his term was "excessive and unreasonable."

The Negro had been sentenced as the result of a fight with a non-union driver, allegedly assaulted by the Negro and a white man.

The loss of men like Poletti in public office will be felt keenly by working men who, nevertheless, have contributed to their own loss by failure to support them at the polls. Repetition may bring disaster in 1944.

California Organizer Honored —

Teamster Heads Regional WPB

UNCLE SAM has called many of our local business agents and organizers to positions of importance in his war program. Word has just come in of the distinguished recognition given James Francis Cronin, star organizer of the California Highway Drivers' Council with headquarters at San Francisco.

Much of the successful and efficient work credited to the California Highway Council is the result of its staff of very able and capable officers. Big Jim Cronin is by no means the least among these apt officials. He has been selected to head Region No. 10 of the War Production Board, and has already taken his position in charge at the San Francisco headquarters of the federal agency.

Big Jim, who is familiarly known as "Highback," is a tireless hustler. Along with his duties as organizer for the California Highway Council,

he is always ready to help any local union in distress. He is a batchelor, though why, we are at a loss to say, and thinks nothing of spending his nights and holidays in the service of unionism.

When this country found itself at war, Jim Cronin was right on the job to register as a volunteer in any capacity in which he could be helpful. Just recently he was appointed as a labor representative on his local rationing board.

He is a brother of the great Joe Cronin, playing manager of the Boston Red Sox, and what Joe has done in the baseball world Jim has equalled in the union movement of San Francisco.

Truly the United States Government gains a good worker while the ranks of the Teamster unions miss—let us hope temporarily—a first-class representative.

Strikes will become more and more unpopular. It will take little more to bring retaliatory, restrictive legislation. We are in such a war as man never dreamed about and its demands are imperative—*The Labor Union, Dayton, O.*

Will We March Again in 1962?

President Roosevelt Says, "NO!"

By Lester M. Hunt

IF THE boys who marched away in 1918 had known that their sons would retrace the same bloody road in 1942, they wouldn't have been singing when they went into battle.

And if the boys of 1942 get the idea that their sons must march off in 1962 or 1972, there won't be much morale on the African desert or in the jungles of the Solomon Islands.

Neither will it help morale if the boys of 1942 think they are coming back to breadlines, like their fathers before them.

If President Roosevelt has his way there won't be any marching off in 1962 or 1972 and there won't be any standing in breadlines before then.

It's Up to Congress

Whether the President has his way depends on how the new congress reacts to the principles he laid down in his message last month. If this congress does not react favorably, then we must get a new congress.

In that message the President made it clear that he intends to prepare for a new kind of peace, while we are fighting a new kind of war.

He does not intend to sacrifice this generation to hunger and the next generation to death. The common men who fight wars must benefit under the peace their bravery brings.

The President refused to yield to political expediency by soft pedaling his determination to protect the common men against the enemies who face them on foreign soil and those who sneak up behind them at home.

Social progress must begin again when the war ends under a peace that will protect this country from the danger that crept up while isolationists buried their heads in the ground and got sand in their eyes.

Pays Tribute to Labor

It was the kind of a message that gave cheer to our fighting men and courage to those they left behind.

It was generally received with approval and enthusiasm outside of a few sour notes expected from Rome, Berlin, Tokyo and Senator Wheeler.

President Roosevelt paid a high tribute to labor in his report on the progress of the war. He did it with facts, not phrases. And the report emphasized the success of the liberal labor policies the President has followed since he came to the White House a decade ago.

Labor has produced on a scale never visioned before and labor in the transportation industry has sped that production to the ends of the earth.

"The miracle of production," the President said as he cited the accomplishments since America found a powder keg at the end of the isolationist rainbow.

Here's the Record!

Here is what labor produced in those momentous months of 1942, according to the President's report to congress:

56,000 combat vehicles such as tanks and self-propelled artillery.

670,000 machine guns.
21,000 anti-tank guns.
10,250,000,000 rounds of small
arms ammunition.
181,000,000 rounds of artillery
ammunition.
48,000 military airplanes.

These quantities shatter all records made by American industry during the first World War and they were achieved despite the draining from civil life of 5,000,000 younger men for the armed services.

The record of labor does not end with this output on the production lines. From this point the transportation industry takes over and the men who delivered the goods on schedule to the fighting fronts were the Teamsters, the railroad men, the commercial pilots and the sailors.

Civilians Die, Too

Thousands of those men have died delivering the goods over the sea lanes, the air lines and the Burma road. Thousands more will die, but the production avalanche will continue to roll until it has smothered Germany, Italy and Japan.

These men of labor in the transportation industry are civilians. But this is total war and in total war civilians must die along with soldiers. And we must see that civilians die in the lands of our enemies if we are to live in our own.

We are fighting the German people

and the Japanese people and those people must die, or we die. We are fighting races of people who are bent on extermination of our race.

Therefore, we must exterminate those races until they fall to their knees in complete, abject and unconditional surrender.

Without means of transporting the weapons of war, the production records of the factories would be worthless and we would go down to defeat before foes who know no compassion.

Labor Has Responded

The President's figures answered the propaganda that labor has failed in its responsibility to democracy. The propagandists capitalized on the few strikes that mar labor's record and completely ignored the remarkable progress made by the huge majority of labor that worked diligently, often in the face of great provocation.

"We have given the lie to certain misconceptions — especially the one which holds that the various blocs or groups within a free country cannot forego their political and economic differences in time of crisis and work together toward a common goal," the President said.

And then the President spoke the words that rang around the world when he repeated his determination that out of this death and misery and destruction must come a peace in which those who won it can enjoy its blessings.

MORE MEN DIE IN FACTORIES THAN IN BATTLE

Since Pearl Harbor, more workers in the United States have been killed by industrial accidents than the Navy, Coast Guard and United States Marines—all combined—have lost in battle. Industrial accidents are largely preventable. They are due mostly to carelessness and negligence. Those who fall in battle die for a cause. Those struck down by industrial accidents die in vain.

—Navy Labor Press Service.

Eighty-six members of Local No. 624 of Springfield, Ohio, are in the armed services, according to the report of Secretary A. V. Walters. This represents more than 24 per cent of the membership.

Isolation, Slums, Breadlines Must Go, President Insists

Editor's Note: Following is the part of President Roosevelt's message to congress in which he defied the isolationists and declared that never again must they be permitted to bring on another war. His vision of the post-war world again justifies the confidence labor has placed in him. Millions of working men are now fighting for that kind of a world. And if it is worth fighting for, it is certainly worth working for—without interruption of any kind for any reason whatsoever.

I HAVE sought to emphasize a sense of proportion in this review of the events of the war and the needs of the war.

We should never forget the things we are fighting for. But, at this critical period of the war, we should confine ourselves to the larger objectives and not get bogged down in argument over methods and details.

We, and all the united nations, want a decent peace and a durable peace. In the years between the end of the first world war and the beginning of the second world war, we were not living under a decent or a durable peace.

I have reason to know that our boys at the front are concerned with two broad aims beyond the winning of the war; and their thinking and their opinions coincide with what most Americans here back home are mulling over.

They know, and we know, that it would be inconceivable—it would, indeed, be sacrilegious—if this nation and the world did not attain some real, lasting good out of all these efforts and sufferings and bloodshed and death.

They Want Work

The men in our armed forces want a lasting peace, and, equally, they want permanent employment for themselves, their families and their neighbors when they are mustered out at the end of the war.

Two years ago I spoke in my annual message of four freedoms. The blessings of two of them—freedom of speech and freedom of religion—are an essential part of the very life of this nation; and we hope that these blessings will be granted to all men everywhere.

The people at home and the people at the front—men and women—are wondering about the third freedom—freedom from want. To them it means that when they are mustered out, when war production is converted to the economy of peace, they will have the right to expect full employment—for themselves and for all able-bodied men and women in America who want to work.

Not Selling Apples

They expect the opportunity to work, to run their farms, their stores, to earn decent wages. They are eager to face the risks inherent in our system of free enterprise.

They do not want a post-war America that suffers from undernourishment or slums—or the dole. They want no get-rich-quick era of bogus "prosperity" that will end for them in selling apples on a street corner, as happened after the bursting of the boom in 1929.

When you talk with our young men and women, you will find they want to work for themselves and their families; they consider they have the right

to work; and they know that after the last war their fathers did not gain that right.

When you talk with our young men and women, you will find that with the opportunity for employment they want assurance against the evils of all major economic hazards—assurance that will extend from the cradle to the grave. This great government can and must provide this assurance.

The President Dissents

I have been told that this is no time to speak of a better America after the war. I am told it is a grave error on my part.

I dissent.

If the security of the individual citizen, or the family, should become a subject of national debate, the country knows where I stand.

I say this now to this 78th congress, because it is wholly possible that freedom from want—the right of employment and the right of assurance against life's hazards—will loom very large as a task of America during the coming two years.

I trust it will not be regarded as an issue—but rather as a task for all of us to study sympathetically, to work out with a constant regard for the attainment of the objective, with fairness to all and with injustice to none.

In this war of survival we must keep before our minds not only the evil things we fight against but the good things we are fighting for. We fight to retain a great past—and we fight to gain a greater future.

Freedom From Fear

Let us remember that economic safety for the America of the future is threatened unless a greater economic stability comes to the rest of the world.

We cannot make America an island

in either a military or an economic sense. Hitlerism, like any other form of crime or disease, can grow from the evil seeds of economic as well as military feudalism.

Victory in this war is the first and greatest goal before us. Victory in the peace is the next. That means striving toward the enlargement of the security of man here and throughout the world—and, finally, striving for the fourth freedom—freedom from fear.

It is of little account for any of us to talk of essential human needs, of attaining security, if we run the risk of another world war in 10 or 20 or 50 years. That is just plain common sense. Wars grow in size, in death and destruction, and in the inevitability of engulfing all nations, in inverse ratio to the shrinking size of the world as a result of the conquest of the air. I shudder to think of what will happen to humanity, including ourselves, if this war ends in an inconclusive peace, and another war breaks out when the babies of today have grown to fighting age.

No Hole in Ground

Every normal American prays that neither he nor his sons nor his grandsons will be compelled to go through this horror again.

Undoubtedly a few Americans, even now, think that this nation can end this war comfortably and then climb back into an American hole and pull the hole in after them.

But we have learned that we can never dig a hole so deep that it would be safe against predatory animals. We have also learned that if we do not pull the fangs of the predatory animals of this world, they will multiply and grow in strength—and they will be at our throats once more in a short generation.

Most Americans realize more clearly than ever before that modern war equipment in the hands of aggressor nations can bring danger overnight to our own national existence or to that of any other nation — or island — or continent.

It is clear to us that if Germany and Italy and Japan—or any one of them—remained armed at the end of this war, or are permitted to rearm, they will again, and inevitably, embark upon an ambitious career of world conquest.

They must be disarmed and kept disarmed, and they must abandon the philosophy, and the teaching of that philosophy, that has brought so much suffering to the world.

After the first world war we tried to achieve a formula for permanent peace, based on magnificent ideals. We failed, but, by our failure, we have learned that we cannot maintain peace at this stage of human development by good intentions alone.

Today the united nations are the mightiest military coalition in history. They represent an overwhelming majority of the population of the world. Bound together in solemn agreement that they themselves will not commit acts of aggression or conquest against any of their neighbors, the united nations can and must remain united for the maintenance of peace by preventing any attempt to rearm in Germany, in Japan, in Italy,

or in any other nation that seeks to violate the tenth commandment — “Thou shalt not covet.”

There are cynics and skeptics who say it cannot be done. The American people and all the freedom-loving peoples of this earth are now demanding that it must be done. And the will of these people shall prevail.

The philosophy of the axis powers is based on profound contempt for the human race. If, in the formation of our future policy, we were guided by the same cynical contempt, then we should be surrendering to the philosophy of our enemies, and our victory would turn to defeat.

The issue of this war is the basic issue between those who believe in mankind and those who do not—the ancient issue between those who put their faith in the people and those who put their faith in dictators and tyrants. There have always been those who did not believe in the people, who attempted to block their forward movement across history, to force them back to servility and suffering and silence.

The people have now gathered their strength. They are moving forward in their might and power—and no force, no combination of forces, no trickery, deceit or violence, can stop them now.

They see before them the hope of the world—a decent, secure, peaceful life for all men everywhere.

“It is well to watch and remember what Lindbergh has said and done. We have a suspicion that before this war has gone very far, Lindbergh will break loose again with some more phoney advice that will cost more American lives or jeopardize American liberty.

“He has demonstrated he can say, ‘Heil.’ We wonder if he can say ‘Banzai,’ too.”—Indiana Teamster.

Local No. 611 of St. Louis has presented incubators to two local hospitals. Within 48 hours after the presentation one of them was used to save the life of a baby which weighed less than three pounds at birth.

A Business Man Looks Ahead

— Asks Cooperation of Labor

By Eric A. Johnston

President, Chamber of Commerce of the United States

Editor's Note—This article is reprinted from the December issue of *The American Mercury* by special permission. It is an interesting sequel to the article Mr. Johnston wrote for the August issue of *The International Teamster*. In August he was speaking to labor. In December he was speaking to business. Both articles reflect the same enlightened and friendly attitude in the discussion of problems in which the welfare of business and labor are equally involved. Teamsters are particularly interested in the views of Mr. Johnston because he is one of our employers.

WE HEAR a great deal these days about the miracle of American production. Despite some muddle and maladjustment, the phrase is amply justified. Let's remember that it was only recently we were far from a total awareness of the meaning of total war. Under these circumstances, the torrents of war goods pouring from our assembly lines—the new plants, the conversion of great industries to wartime purposes, the vast retooling process and retraining of millions of men and women—are indeed miraculous.

Our allies, the fearful "neutrals" and the conquered nations alike, look to this American miracle to save mankind from the fascist scourge. Consider the implications of this fact. In a time of supreme crisis, all civilization must stake its survival on American productive genius, American resources, American ingenuity. But those things are not accidental. They have a history. Behind the economic miracle that must save our own country, and the world, from enslavement are the forces set loose and brought to an amazing pitch of development by the American system of individual enterprise. Our technique of mass production, our technological achieve-

ments, our talent for economic organization, our ability to improvise under pressure—all these are products of the profit system.

No one with eyes to see and a heart to feel will deny that the system has also given us results of another kind. It has failed to prevent periods of tragic depression and the frightful waste represented by cycles of mass unemployment. The forces of individual enterprise and unrelenting competition gave America the world's highest standard of living, including our proud standards of political freedoms. But they did not commensurately arouse man's sense of obligation to his fellow man. They did not harmonize the relations between capital and labor, between business and farmers, between producers and consumers. The emphasis on individual effort and private reward too frequently was carried to the point of obscuring community responsibility.

Let's recognize these things frankly. Then we shall be able to conserve the constructive and useful values in the American way of life. The threat to those values is from two directions.

First, there are those ultra-conservatives who dislike change, any sort of change, and hence would turn back

the clock of history. Whatever their views or their motives, the plain fact is that such people automatically place themselves in the camp of unreasoning reactionaries — which is quite a different thing from intelligent conservatives. I believe that, fortunately, the impact of war is jolting the ultra-conservatives out of their complacency; they are becoming fewer in number.

Second, at the other extreme, are the clamorous collectivists; psychologically one breed, whether they call themselves fascists or communists. We can leave out of account the mere demagogues and power-hungry schemers and consider only the honest collectivists. These are so conscious of the unsavory by-products of the American system that they are blind to its achievements and blinder to its unexploited potentialities. In their anger, they would throw the baby out with the bathwater. Even the sorry record of physical degradation, moral bankruptcy, terror and war in the countries which have tried collectivism and state dictatorship does not frighten these theorists and utopians. They find excuses and fool themselves into believing that the American version of totalitarian life will be different.

I am convinced that I speak for the great majority of Americans in insisting that there must be a middle ground of reality somewhere between these extreme threats to our traditional life. Call us progressives, or liberal progressives, or conservative liberals — such tags have lost their old meanings in the present crisis of growth and change. Whatever the label, we deny that America faces a choice between a congealed old order and some purely experimental new order. On the contrary, we feel that those who narrow the choice to such

unpalatable extremes are confusing the issue.

The task facing America is to adjust old values to new conditions. We shall indeed be unwise if we fail to survey the common ground on which old and new can meet and blend. The epoch of dog-eat-dog economy is ended. Modern machinery and the very abundance we have created require new types of self-discipline on the part of all social groups — on the part of capital, labor and agriculture. Our complex society must preserve and even deepen the virtues of the profit system, rounding it out with new forms of cooperation. The alternative is chaos or worse — total organization by a tyrannical state.

Every group must recognize and shoulder its responsibilities. Labor unions and organized farmers, as well as business, must think in terms of the community interest, must consider the welfare of all, for we shall all stand or fall together. The instincts of self-interest are not limited to any one element in the population. But being a businessman, I want to address myself especially to my own kind.

The "good old days" have passed into the limbo of once and for all. Besides, they were not as good as they appeared to some of us. We experienced a gaudy prosperity in the tumultuous twenties, when business was the greatest power in the land. Then the boom bubble burst, plunging us into the universal depression which led inevitably to universal war. The collectivist state took control in some nations, and made some inroads even in our traditionally free country.

Out of the ordeal we must draw some lessons. We must learn that a healthy society is a mosaic of forces, and that its pattern will be shattered if each group thinks only of itself, its own rights, its own benefits.

If business has sinned in the last two decades, the sin has been to ignore changed conditions. There have been exceptions, but by and large, business did not adequately recognize the social problems of the mechanized society that business created. When unemployment was rampant in the decade of depression, business was extremely critical of federal measures to relieve the wholesale distress of our people — and, I think, justly critical in many instances. But the basic mistake of business was to criticize without constructive suggestion as to how unemployment might be relieved. Our approach to the problem was negative and therefore it was futile.

The shape of tomorrow's world will depend in large measure on the businessman's ability to understand the new conditions and meet the challenge of change. America has always been resilient. It has the suppleness of youth. On the basis of change, we have been able to build the mightiest nation on the face of this planet, and to provide more of the good things of life for our people than any other country. Not only tangible goods like automobiles, radios, bathtubs and a better diet, but intangibles like education and artistic expression and civil liberties, which are even more important.

Perhaps the changes since the first world war came too fast and too rapidly to be assimilated. Businessmen, and many other segments of our population, were bewildered. Businessmen found themselves derided as Babbitts and cursed as economic royalists. Meanwhile, Congress enacted restrictive measures in an endless series, bureaucratic rule-makers had a field day of it, and soon business found itself fenced in by restrictions, baited in all seasons and all but outlawed.

In general, the businessman's re-

sponse was characteristic of a breed of individualists and fighters conditioned by generations of competition. He yelled bloody murder every time government assumed obligations — the obligations which business itself had failed to meet. He might as well have fanned the air with his hat or butted his head against stone walls.

The pity of it is that, though they were often right in their viewpoints, businessmen usually left their motives wide-open to suspicion. Their basic distaste for excessive government interference in everyday life, and their distrust of elephantine bureaucracy, are justified by the whole American experience. Their feeling that the coincidence of individual freedom and individual enterprise is not accidental but a matter of cause and effect finds full support in our own national history, and in the recent history of countries like Germany and Russia.

But somehow, businessmen did not make these points clear to themselves and to others. Instead, they left themselves open to the ridiculous charge that they were against feeding the hungry, against relieving unemployment — in favor only of keeping up profits and keeping down taxes. Perhaps the greatest irony of all is that business, which has contributed more to "freedom from want" than any other element in America, was jockeyed into the unreasonable position of seeming to oppose that very freedom!

I realize that this is a serious indictment, perhaps more serious than it need be. But I am eager to be emphatic in this matter. Business cannot save itself from a species of persecution and ultimate obliteration unless it meets change halfway. *And mind you, if business is obliterated, American liberty as we have known it is obliterated.* In making an adjustment

with reality for itself, business will also save the American way of life.

Business must reconquer what was once supremely its own, namely, *public confidence*. Fortunately, the worst is over, so far as popular distrust of business is concerned. The superb job being done by business in producing the weapons for victory, and its cooperation with all other phases of the war effort, is registering on the public mind. The more cooperative spirit manifested by the leaders of labor is more than matched by business.

There may be the lingering thought that business and management are "behaving" only because of wartime pressures and wartime profits. But this skepticism is utterly unjustified. No other group is profiting from the emergency as little as business. Wartime regulations are being obeyed voluntarily. Profit margins on war contracts are narrow and only a small percentage of earnings are retained after taxes. The truly patriotic and social-spirited conduct of business has been praised by the press and government leaders. Criticism has become the exception and is no longer the rule. In short, public confidence is sharply on the upgrade.

It must not only be retained and deepened—it must be *deserved*! Business must demonstrate that it has a heart as well as a mind. It must seek to co-ordinate its own policies and interests with those of labor, agriculture and government, in a spirit of self-regulation. Other elements in our American community must *want* to keep our business system alive and virile, as the fundamental condition for their own survival and prosperity.

At this juncture, the paramount duty of all businessmen, of all Americans, is to concentrate on winning the war. But I believe that intelligent planning for the post-war years is an

essential part of that victory, one that can be carried on without detracting from all-out production. Indeed, we can add immensely to the impetus behind our war effort by planning a better world for tomorrow.

There are too many prophets of pessimism in the land. Pessimism comes easy. The average American, however, is immune to the preachments of gloom. He believes that our freedoms, including freedom of economic enterprise, will be stronger when the present job is done. He knows that the forms of cooperation made necessary by the war can be carried over and adapted to the period of peace.

The core of the complex problems that face us will be unemployment. Unless employment is assured, people here, as in other countries, will be tempted to swap their freedom for food, shelter and security. American business, therefore, must recognize its obligation to provide employment and security. If business, in friendly alignment with trade unions, farmers and other private groups, fails in this essential, the state will step in with the well-known consequences.

I believe business can and will meet this challenge. Fortunately, we shall have at our disposal at the end of the war six powerful tools to spur production and create employment. If these tools are used intelligently, there is every reason to believe that we shall not only perpetuate the American system of free enterprise, but build a more abundant and more secure world.

1. *We will possess the greatest plant capacity in our history, much of it designed for the latest productive techniques.*

2. *We will have greater sources of raw materials, natural and synthetic, than ever before in the past.*

3. *We will have the greatest armies*

of skilled mechanics and technicians ever before available to any nation.

4. *We will face a colossal backlog of accumulated demands for all sorts of commodities, both accustomed products and new products evoked by wartime technological progress.*

5. *The American people will have vast accumulated savings with which to satisfy their deferred demands.*

6. *An economic vacuum will exist in many countries and it is an immutable law of nature that a vacuum must be filled.*

We have the brains and the skills to use these tools effectively. We have the brains to turn coal into silk stockings, fly tens of tons of metal in the air, erect a shaft of stone and steel a hundred stories high. We can and must turn that intelligence to the task of harnessing the supercharged currents of our mechanized civilization, rather than be swept in confusion to economic chaos.

Recently, a group of prominent Britishers, including men like Sir Ernest Benn, Dean Inge and St. John Ervine, issued a manifesto pleading for "restoration of that spirit of individual liberty and responsibility" that once characterized their national life. They stressed economic liberty and individual enterprise in business. At one point they declared:

"We reject the notion common to all totalitarian systems, whether Communist, Fascist or Nazi, that the state is the supreme monopolistic super-entity, the sole source of authority and morality. The omnipotent state lacks the moral elements inherent in the individual. It not only devours its own creators, but it becomes a force for evil, both inside and outside its own boundaries. The unit of existence is a natural human being and his or her natural extension in the family, not the artificial personality of the state."

Referring specifically to the economic phase, their manifesto said:

"Certain essential services must be organized and guaranteed by the state, but it is not the true function of government to manage private life. Bureaucratic control is invariably accompanied by lack of flexibility and initiative and by waste of time and public money. It inevitably fails of the very object for which it is supposed to exist—efficiency."

American businessmen, including the most progressive among them, will subscribe to this general attitude. We favor free enterprise. We know that the danger is not merely that of government invading business, but of *business invading government*. The results are the same, whether the state takes over business—or business takes over the state.

Sound-thinking leaders of labor, agriculture, government and business alike believe that the American business system offers more hope and opportunity for humanity than any system ever attempted in practice or devised on paper. Labor knows that in the collectivist state the worker gets the worst end of the bargain. In that state, there is no unemployment, but only in the sense that there is no unemployment in a military barracks or a concentration camp. Managers at least continue to manage, but workers become virtual slaves of the super-state.

The time is ripe for a unity of forces in American life which will sweep away barriers to production and guarantee an economy of abundance at war's end. All but a tiny minority among businessmen and in management realize that labor unions have become an intrinsic and permanent element in our mechanism of free enterprise—an element able to serve the over-all cause of American prosperity.

Fundamentally, management and

labor are today in agreement. Each side is fast learning to understand the other. The war emergency has shown the need — and the possibility — of cooperation. This new unity must be projected into the post-war era. Management alone cannot break down the barriers to production —

barriers such as taxes on incentive and investment, monopolistic practices by business and government and labor, rules for economic life arbitrarily devised by bureaucrats. Only management working with labor can remove the barriers, for the welfare of the nation as a whole.

Tobin Objects to Delivery Ban — Says It Would Cause Disruption

THE suggestion that the effect of new regulations be thoroughly studied before they are put into effect was made by President Tobin to Director John L. Rogers of the Division of Motor Transport, in raising objection to a proposed order restricting milk and bakery deliveries.

President Tobin's comments were made in a letter to the director after reading a copy of the order which the federal department had prepared.

His letter follows:

December 31, 1942.

"Dear Mr. Rogers:

"This will acknowledge receipt of your letter of December 29, 1942, in which you enclose a copy of a proposed order drafted by your staff and dealing largely with local delivery service.

"I am very grateful to you for sending me this copy, which I have briefly reviewed. I have only read four or five pages of the proposed order. I notice that on the fourth page it states:

'not more than two (2) wholesale deliveries and three (3) retail deliveries of bread and perishable bakery products weekly. . . .'

"And on the fifth page it states:

'not more than two (2) wholesale deliveries and three (3) retail deliveries of

fresh milk or cream, except said deliveries are made with steel-tired vehicles.'

"That's all I want to read of this order. If you ever issue such an order as this without making further preparation, you will cause such a disruption in the entire industry of the delivery of food products, that I do not even want to contemplate what would happen.

"My last reports from the conference with our people down there were that you had reached very definite understandings as to your procedure. We are both trying to work this thing out as best we can, but to put out such a definite order now dealing with these very vital problems, would, I am afraid, destroy a good deal of the work we have jointly accomplished.

"I trust you and your associates will give this matter more serious consideration. I repeat again that before such drastic action is taken in the delivery of the necessities of life, such as I have referred to above, there should be no pleasure vehicles allowed to run on the streets or roads of our country. If you intend to go further into the substance of this order, it might be well to get together in Washington with some of our people composing the Rubber and Gasoline Committee of the International Union."

Morgan's Face Gets Red

I VAN C. MORGAN got as red and unhealthy as one of his cans of decomposed tomato paste when he read the January issue of THE INTERNATIONAL TEAMSTER, we are informed.

He never did like Teamsters and now he likes them less than ever. They are as poisonous to him as his putrified products are to the general public. And if anyone thinks that Morgan does not put out putrified products, let him read the federal court records. Morgan and his father were convicted for 18 offenses in sending rotten and adulterated food into interstate commerce.

The Teamsters exposed that criminal record but it didn't annoy Morgan as much as what we said last month.

Last month we exposed Morgan as a tax swindler, trying to shove his taxes off on his neighbors as he shoves his putrid goods off on his customers.

As Republican chairman for the ninth congressional district of Indiana, Morgan pictures himself as a power in barnyard politics. He thinks the federal government costs too much and he demands lower taxes.

Last month we showed how Morgan tried to get them. He submitted a fraudulent set of figures to the Indiana Tax Board, putting the value of his personal property at \$265,517.

But the tax board checked Morgan's plants and put his personal property valuation at \$1,001,975. The investigators found he had covered up property worth \$736,458 and they boosted his taxes more than 250 per cent.

As a result, Morgan's neighbors have obtained cheaper government. Their taxes all went down. And so did their opinion of Morgan. That's what hurts Morgan. Every time they see him they must think to themselves—"There goes that cheap chiseler who tried to make us pay his taxes."

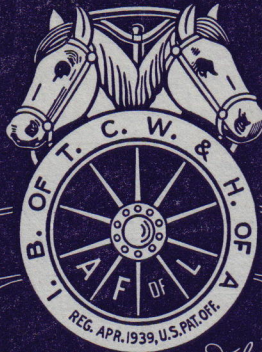
But he's still hot stuff to the Republican party in Indiana. Apparently it doesn't matter how much poisonous food he makes, or how many taxpayers he seeks to swindle, or how many people he kills and maims with his scab-driven trucks. (They killed and injured 30 in only 11 months.)

But next year the Republicans may wonder why people laugh when they hear Morgan advocating the election of Republican candidates so they can give "cheaper government."

If people like Morgan paid their honest taxes we would have cheaper government.

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